

## Meeting Minutes

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)

Unified/Combined Plan Task Force

Thursday, June 4, 2015

9:00am – noon, 1700 Civic Drive Dupont, WA 98327

### Attendance

**Present:** Amy Diehr (Tacoma Community House), Anna Nikolaeva (SBCTC), Betty Klattenhoff (OSPI), Carly Crosby (DSHS), Danielle Wallace (WDC), David Stillman (DSHS), Del DelaBarre (OWBC), Diana Dollar (Prosperity Agenda), Don Kay (DVR), Ellen Nolan (DSHS), Eleni Papadakis (WTECB), Eric Wolf (WTECB), Jim Kenny (AL TSA), Lori Pfingst (WA Budget & Policy), Louisa Erickson (DSHS), Mark Adreon (DSB), Mat Carlisle (SBCTC), Michael MacKillop (DSB), Mihaela Cosma (LWTC), Phouang Hamilton (OSPI), Shani Watkins (Seattle Schools), Terri Colbert (WTECB), Tim Probst (ESD), Tony Hanson (Com)

**Not in Attendance:** Carlos Veliz (Lighthouse for the Blind), David Hartman (Prosperity Agenda), Darlene Snider (WWCC), Denny Wallace (OSPI), Diane Klontz (Commerce), Erin Monroe (WDC), John Bowers (SSCC), Karen Hay (WANIC Skill Centre), Karen Manuel (WDC), Kathy DiJulio (WWA), Kim Justice (WA Budget & Policy), Lindsey Blanding (Prosperity Agenda), Marie Bruin (SBCTC), Nova Gattman (WTECB), Tamara Jones (DSHS), Troy McClelland, (Econ. Alliance, Snoh. Cty), William Durden (SBCTC)

### Agenda Items

#### I. Welcome and Introductions

- David Stillman, Chair, opened the meeting and reviewed the agenda.

#### II. Unified and Combined Plans: Pros and Cons/Agency Perspectives (Continued from last Meeting, 5.21.15)

- (OWBC, Del) Choosing a unified or combined plan is a difficult and complex decision to make, and it would be a disservice to the subcommittee to recommend only a unified or only a combined plan.
  - The Subcommittee should present some kind of process that moves towards a combined integrated plan at the state level, that has benefits and is cost proportioned to all partners
  - We can accomplish a lot at One-Stop

- Develop a process that spreads the benefits and costs down to all the partners
- There are significant challenges in terms of resources
- (Seattle Schools, Shani) Preference is to keep Perkins out of a combined Plan – opportunities could be missed if integrated.
- (LWTC, Mihaela) No preference.
  - Concerned about the complexity of starting with a unified plan and transitioning into a combined plan in the future
  - Why not aim for a combined plan initially?
- (ESD, Tim) Opt for a combined plan with as many partners as possible
  - Speak to the Federal government about the benefits of a combined plan;
    - Coordinates better
    - Streamlined
    - Organized approach
  - Move aggressively towards a combined plan and if the combined plan doesn't seem to be working, change direction and create a unified plan
- (OSPI, Betty) Concerns still exist
  - Unsure about Perkins and how it will look
- (OSPI, Phuoang) Look at existing activities within WIA and determine what's working and what's not working and integrate into WIOA
  - Feels Perkins should be left out
- (WA Budget & Policy, Lori) Preference is for a combined plan
  - TANF customers need more access to education and training, longer than current 12 month limit
  - Doesn't want to miss the opportunity to align programs with TANF
- (DSHS, David)
  - Focus on the desired outcomes as opposed to focusing on choosing a plan – let the desired outcomes inform the decision. Some outcomes to consider:
    - Equity and access improved
    - Mutuality of success measures
    - Organization/cultural change
    - Common intake process
    - Overcome confidentiality issues

- Improve data sharing and integration
- Improve cross training and professional development
  - Frictionless coordination between partners
  - Clients should be able to access services without any friction and without knowing there is a complex system behind it
  - Would like to see the WPR taken out
- (Com, Tony) Participation rate contradicts the outcomes (bad measure)
  - MOU/Strategic plan is a more powerful way to get partners to work together (not necessarily in favor of a combined plan)
- (WTECB, Eleni) All partners should have collective ownership for problems and solutions.
  - Be collectively committed to achieving outcomes
- (DSB, Michael) It might be too big of a leap right now to go with a combined plan; but fears that once the normal becomes the norm, there will be no change to a combined plan, even if there is initial intent to do so
- (SBCTC, Anna) Concerned about the way Perkins funding can be used
  - Perkins is currently working well at colleges – preserve college ability to serve their students and have decision-making about how they use the funds to support student success
  - Majority of colleges are supporting Perkins through One-Stop
  - Required to be a One-Stop partner but hasn't been required to contribute Perkins funding
- (SBCTC, Mat) Feels there is no advantage for BFET to be included
  - WorkFirst and TANF requirements create a heavy burden on partners and participants
  - What will WIOA measures add (to that burden) on top of existing TANF measures?

### **III. Update: TANF/WIOA Integration Stakeholder Sessions**

- Eight of nine sessions have been held; with the last one today at bates South campus from 2-4 PM.
- There is an expansive range of stakeholders interested in the TANF integration, with a broader WorkFirst development system.

- There have been over 230 stakeholders in attendance at the sessions to date, including; Local DSHS staff (CSO, Children's Admin, Child Support, DVR), ESD, the SBCTC, DVR, housing, WDCs, WTECB, colleges, tribal representatives, Community Action Agencies, employment and training CBOs, Domestic Violence, and LEP providers and other advocates.
- The sessions have focused on cultivating information from the stakeholders, in the context of TANF integration around envisioning an ideal TANF workforce development program, opportunities, and challenges/concerns.
- Common themes are emerging – reflecting and aligning those of the WTECB's WIOA Subcommittees and Task Forces, including:
  - Cross Training and Professional Development
  - Data sharing and integration – with recognition about potential concerns around confidentiality
  - Reducing the amount of information clients share repeatedly by creating coordinated entry, common intake, and information sharing
  - Blended or Braided funding – partners work behind the scenes to create seamless co-enrollment opportunities for clients and provide transition/handoffs that aren't a burden to the client, but are a benefit.
  - Organizational/Cultural differences – Different perspectives between voluntary and mandatory programs/voluntary and mandatory program clients and agencies, that serve and approach those services
  - WPR – local folks and service provider's feel that the federal requirements make it difficult to serve people well, especially in the terms of WorkFirst.
  - Concerns about access – physical, technology, and resource based/socio economic barriers.
  - Equity – Ensuring all customers are offered same opportunities for services without "labels" or stigma; and recognizing that some harder to serve populations may need additional supports to truly have access and equity.
- There is an overall positivity about TANF being fully integrated into the broader WorkFirst system.
- A consolidated report, identifying patterns and trends will be provided and shared with all, to include this task force, WTECB, the Governor's office, and TANF stakeholders.
- DSHS will continue to engage and update Stakeholders – A WIOA email box has been created for Q & A's, which Louisa Erickson and Tom Berry monitor.

#### IV. Final Comments: Perspectives on Recommendations for a Unified or Combined Plan:

- (ESD, Tim) Consider;
  1. For the programs opting into a combined plan, can we request no change to their data and accountability requirements?
    - Or only use the data they already collect, but in a new way?
  2. Can their only planning work be how they will contribute to the rest of the system, and how the rest of the system will contribute to the rest of their success?
  3. What benefits would they want for their customers for taking part in a combined plan?
  4. Who do we ask for answers to these questions? David indicated members at the table, as agency leaders, can likely come up with the answers or pose the questions to the federal agencies.

Action Items		
Action Item	Assigned to	Due
1. Discuss majority/minority positions, concerns, strategic plan and guiding principles at next meeting	Louisa	Next meeting, 6.18.15
2. Create a voting matrix to be implemented at the next meeting	Louisa	Next meeting, 6.18.15
3. Develop a parking lot	Louisa/Tamara	Ongoing
4. Provide any meeting materials to Louisa Erickson or Carly Crosby	ALL	6.16.15

**Next meeting, June 18, 2015; 9:00AM – NOON, Dupont City Council Chambers**